

Country Data Profile: Orphans

Countries Targeted by the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief



TANZANIA

Tanzania has a population of 35.9 million, 15.9 million of whom are children under the age of 15 years (BUCEN, 2003). Child health remains poor in the country. UNICEF estimates that infant mortality stood at 104 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2001 and under-five mortality at 165 deaths per 1,000 live births. In 2001, approximately 170,000 Tanzanian children were living with HIV/AIDS. With an adult HIV/AIDS prevalence rate of 7.8 percent in 2001 (UNAIDS 2002), Tanzania is one of the 14 African and Caribbean countries selected for assistance by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.

National Orphan Population. As seen in table 1, estimates and projections of the percentage of children who are orphans (losing one or both parents due to all causes, including HIV/AIDS) are high – 10.1 percent (1995), 12.0 percent (2001), and 11.6 percent (2010, projected) by *Children on the Brink 2002*; 8.5 percent (1996) by the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS); and 8.7 percent (1999) by the Reproductive Health Survey (RHS). Despite a slight decrease in the percent of children projected to be orphaned between 2001 and 2010, the number of orphans in Tanzania is likely to increase throughout the decade and surpass 2 million by 2010 (*Children on the Brink 2002*).

Orphans Due to AIDS. The estimated percentage of children orphaned by AIDS, as opposed to other causes, increased from 18.8 percent of all orphans in 1995 to 42.3 percent in 2001. If current trends continue, it is projected that by 2010 more than half of Tanzania's orphans will have been orphaned by AIDS.

Table 1: Orphan Estimates as a Percent of All Children Under Age 15

Factors	Source Name/Year									
	<i>Children on the Brink 2002</i> (1995 estimates)		Tanzania DHS 1996	Tanzania RHS 1999	<i>Children on the Brink 2002</i> (2001 estimates)		UNAIDS 2002 (2001 data)		<i>Children on the Brink 2002</i> (2010 projections)	
	%	# (000's)	%	%	%	# (000's)	%	# (000's)	%	# (000's)
HIV/AIDS Prevalence (Adults and Children)								1,500		
Adult HIV Prevalence							7.8	1,300		
Total Orphans	10.1	1,436	8.5	8.7	12	1,928			11.6	2,152
Maternal Orphans	3.3	465	2.3	2.2	3.9	629			4.0	736
Paternal Orphans	5.7	813	5.5	5.3	6.3	1,011			6.0	1,116
Double Orphans	1.1	159	0.6	1.1	1.8	288			1.6	301
Orphans due to HIV/AIDS as a Percentage of Total Orphans	18.8	271			42.3	815			54.2	1,167

Sub-National Orphan Populations. According to the 1999 RHS, at least 6 percent of children are orphaned in all regions of Tanzania. As seen in table 2, the percent of orphaned children is especially high in the Southern Highlands region, where 14.3 percent of children have lost at least one parent. For the country as a whole, 5.4 percent of children are paternal orphans (having lost their father), and 2.4 percent of children are maternal orphans



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(having lost their mother). Table 3 shows changes in sub-national orphan estimates from 1992 to 1999. During the 1990s, the national percent of double orphans (children who have lost both parents) more than doubled from 0.5 percent of children to 1.1 percent of children. The majority of this increase can be attributed to the substantial increase in double orphans in the Southern Highlands region, where the percent of double orphans increased from 0.3 percent in 1992 to 2.8 percent in 1999. Throughout the decade, the percent of total orphans increased in all regions except the Northern Highlands, which experienced a decrease in total orphans from 7.3 to 6.1 percent of children between 1992 and 1999.

Methodologies for Estimating Orphans. Differences among the orphan estimates and projections of various organizations occur due to differences in methodologies, definitions (of “orphan,” for example), and demographic and epidemiological assumptions. On the one hand, *Children on the Brink* and UNAIDS estimate the number of orphans using mathematical models, estimations, and projections based on certain assumptions about the impact of HIV/AIDS on adult mortality, fertility, and child survival. These assumptions are likely to lead to overestimations of female HIV prevalence and mortality. Surveys such as DHS/RHS and the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) (not available for Tanzania), on the other hand, are based on data gathered through household surveys of representative samples of the national population. These surveys may underestimate the number of orphans because they fail to count orphans in institutions or on the street. In addition, surveys may underestimate the number of orphans if parental survival status is unknown.

Table 2. Sub-National Estimates of Orphans as a Percent of All Children Under Age 15, 1999

Factors	Sub-Regions (Tanzania RHS, 1999)						
	National	Coastal	N. Highlands	Lake	Central	S. Highlands	Southern
Total Number of Children Under 15 Surveyed	8,465	1,691	1,420	2,915	687	1,066	686
Total Orphans	8.8	8.0	6.1	8.6	9.3	14.3	8.3
Maternal Orphans	2.4	3.4	1.1	2.2	2.3	3.5	1.9
Paternal Orphans	5.4	4.0	4.2	5.6	6.4	8.0	5.1
Double Orphans	1.1	0.6	0.9	0.9	0.6	2.8	1.5

Table 3. Sub-National Estimates of Double Orphans and Total Orphans, 1992 and 1999

Sub-Regions	1992 (DHS) (N = 20,299)		1999 (RHS) (N = 8,465)	
	Double Orphans (%)	Total Orphans (%)	Double Orphans (%)	Total Orphans (%)
National Average	0.5	7.0	1.1	8.8
Coastal	0.5	7.5	0.6	8.0
N. Highlands	0.6	7.3	0.9	6.1
Lake	0.5	7.8	0.9	8.6
Central	0.3	6.0	0.6	9.3
S. Highlands	0.3	6.5	2.8	14.3
Southern	0.3	6.6	1.5	8.3

Table 1 Data Sources

Children on the Brink 2002: A Joint Report on Orphan Estimates and Program Strategies. New York: UNICEF, November 2002: National estimates and projections for the number of orphans by country, type (whether the orphan has lost mother, father, or both parents), and cause (AIDS and non-AIDS) are provided for five-year periods between 1990 and 2010. This report is a collaborative effort of USAID, UNAIDS, and UNICEF to produce estimates and projections specifically related to the orphan population, such as child mortality rates with and without AIDS and the number of children orphaned by AIDS and other causes.

Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), 1996; and Tanzania Reproductive Health Survey (RHS) 1999. Calverton, Maryland, USA: National Bureau of Statistics Planning Commission [Tanzania], and Macro International, Inc. This household survey provides orphan estimates.

Report on the Global HIV/AIDS Epidemic. July 2002. Geneva: UNAIDS, July 2002: The models for the estimates take into consideration HIV/AIDS prevalence in special populations, AIDS deaths, and HIV/AIDS knowledge and behavior.

Table 2 Data Sources

Tanzania Reproductive Health Survey (RHS) 1999. Calverton, Maryland, USA: National Bureau of Statistics Planning Commission [Tanzania], and Macro International, Inc. This household survey provides orphan estimates.

Nyangara, F. and P. McDermott. 2003 (unpublished). "Sub-National Distribution and Situation of Orphans: Countries Targeted by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief." Washington, D.C.: Population, Health and Nutrition Information Project/USAID. National-level statistics and sub-national orphan percentages using 1999 RHS data.

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Other Data Sources

State of the World's Children 2003. New York: UNICEF. This source provides infant mortality and under-five mortality statistics.

United States Census Bureau (BUCEN), International Programs Center. Washington, D.C.: BUCEN International Programs Center, International Database (<http://www.census.gov/ipc/www/world.html>), accessed October 2003: The source provides the total number of children under 15.

Definitions by Data Source

Children on the Brink 2002

(The following definitions refer to the data in the *Children on the Brink 2002* final report. Figures in table 1 differ from those found in the final report as double orphans were subtracted from the maternal and paternal estimates to allow for comparability with DHS and MICS data.)

Maternal Orphans: Estimated percent of children under age 15 whose mothers, and perhaps fathers, have died (includes double orphans).

Paternal Orphans: Estimated percent of children under age 15 whose fathers, and perhaps mothers, have died (includes double orphans).

Double Orphans: Estimated percent of children under age 15 whose mother, father, or both parents have died.

Total Orphans: Estimated number of children under age 15 whose mother, father, or both parents have died regardless of parental cause of death. The total number of orphans is equal to the sum of the maternal and paternal, minus double orphans, because they are counted in both the maternal and paternal category.

Total Orphans Due to AIDS: Estimated number of children under age 15 whose mother, father, or both parents have died due to AIDS.

Orphans Due to AIDS as a Percentage of Total Orphans: Estimated percent of children under age 15 who have lost at least one parent due to AIDS as a percent of all children who have been orphaned, regardless of parental cause of death.

UNAIDS

Number of People Living with HIV/AIDS: Estimated number of adults and children living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2001. Children are defined as those aged 0-14.

Number of Children Living with HIV/AIDS: Estimated number of children aged 0-14 living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2001.

Number of Adults Living with HIV/AIDS: Estimated number of adults living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2001. Adults are females aged 15-49, or those in their sexually active years.

Adults HIV Prevalence Rate: To calculate the adult HIV prevalence rate, the estimated number of adults living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2001 was divided by the 2001 adult population (aged 15-49).